

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03328 121745Z

43

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UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 3328

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TAG: PFOR, DA, NATO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN STRESSES NEED TO MAINTAIN
STRONG

WESTERN DEFENSE

1. BERLINGSKE TIDENDE JUST PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE BY FOREIGN
MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN ON EVE PRIMIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON STRESSING
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PAGE 02 COPENH 03328 121745Z

THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EASTERN BLOC TO REDUCE TENSION SHOULD NOT

LEAD TO A UNI-
LATERAL REDUCTION OF WESTERN DEFENSE. FOLLOWING ARE SIG-
NIFICANT QUOTES FROM THAT ARTICLE.

"WITHOUT THE STRENGTH AND SECURITH WHICH THE ATLANTIC
ALLIANCE MEANS AND HAS MEANT FOR WESTERN EUROPE, NEGOTIATIONS
ON THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT OR FORCE REDUCTIONS INVIENNA WOULD
HARDLY HAVE STARTED. FURTHERMORE, THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE HAS
MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR NATO COUNTRIES TO ACHIEVE THE BENEFITS
OF LONG PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT SINCE THE WAR. NEUTRAL STATES
HAVE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO FEEL SURE AS A RESULT OF WESTERN
DEFENSE COOPERATION. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CREDIBILITY
ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN EUROPE
FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE MAKES ANY TALK OF DEFENSE IN THE
EEC CONTEXT POINTLESS."

"FOR DENMARK, DETENTE POLICY CANNOT MEAN A WEAKENING
OF DEFENSE. THE LONG-TERM AIM IS OBVIOUSLY TO CREATE CON-
DITIONS FOR SOME DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL MAKE BOTH THE
NATO TREATY AND THE WARSAW PACT SUPERFLUOUS. BUT THIS IS NOT
JUST AROUND THE CORNER. AND IT IS CERTAIN THAT THESE CON-
DITIONS WILL NOT BE PROMOTED THROUGH UNILATERAL WESTERN
WEAKENING OF DEFENSES."

AFTER MENTIONING DAISH PROPOSALS MADE TO THE
NORDIC COUNTIRES AND USA, FONMIN ANDERSEN SAID THAT THE
DANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS PULLED TOGETHER A SPECIAL WORKING
GROUP WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF FOLLOWING UP THE HELSINKI
PROTOCOL.

THE FOREIGN MINISTER WENT ON: "IT IS VITAL TO STRESS
THAT THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE USED AS BACKGROUND
FOR A PINPRICK POLICYTOWARDS EASTERN COUNTRIES. THAT WOULD
DESTROY THE POSSIBILITY OF THE AGREEMENT AS AN INSTRUMENT IN
THE SERVICE OF PEACE AND REDUCED TENSION. THE DOCUMENT
IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE USED IN DAILY POLEMICS.

" IN ADDITION TO PARTICIPATING IN INTERNATONAL COOPERATION
EFFORTS, IT WAS NATURAL FOR DANISH FOREGIN POLICY TO CONTINUE
THE BILATERAL DIALOGUE WITH THE EASTERN COUNTRIES STARTED AT
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PAGE 03 COPENH 03328 121745Z

DANISH INTIATIVE IN THE MID-60'S. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT
WE ACCEPT DICTATORSHIP AS A FORM OF GOVERNMENT.
BUT WE ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THE COUNTIRES WITH TEH SAME FORM
OF GOVERNMENT AS WE HAVE DO NOT TOTAL MORE THAN ABOUT 25.
IT WAS UNTHINKABLE TO LIMIT OUR EXTERNAL CONTACTS TO THEM."

MR. ANDERSEN SAID THAT IT MADE GOOD SENSE TO CONTINUE
DENMARK'S PRESENT SECURITY POLICY, TO PURSUE THE CSCE

INITIATIVE, TO DEEPEN DANISH POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN EC-9
AND TO MAINTAIN AND EXPAND BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH EASTERN
COUNTRIES. BUT THE DECISIVE ARGUMENT FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS
FOR A DETENTE POLICY WAS THE FACT THAT THE ALTERNATIVE WAS AN
ARMS RACE WITH WAR AS THE FINAL TARGET. DENMARK WAS
THEREFORE NOT NAIVE IN TAKING PART IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE
INTERNATONAL TENSION.

THE MINISTER CONCLUDED BY SAYING: "PERHAPS THERE IS
REASON TO SAY TO OUR NEGOTIATING PARTNERS IN THE EAST THAT
IF THEY EXPECT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS ON DETENTE TO PRODUCE A
UNILATERAL WESTERN REDUCTION OF SECURITY WHICH COULD RISK
UPSETTING THE ENTIRE DETENTE PROCESS, THEY ARE MISTAKEN."
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